

# Safety and Age...

## Make Sure Your Child's Toys Are Safe



1. The different things you will need to do to keep your child safe depend on how old they are and what type of trouble they can get into- kids are curious and like to challenge rules so be prepared to keep them safe
2. Even though your child may learn a new skill, often times your child will not be old enough to consider dangers with what he/she is doing- a toddler doesn't understand what will happen when he falls off the table he just climbed up on
3. Here are some guidelines you can use to help keep your child safe:
  - **Infants:** put all potential hazards up high and out of view and only have safe objects around your child; always use car seats when your baby rides in a car
  - **Toddlers & Preschoolers:** use fun ways to teach safety like pictures, songs, and books; always explain why your child is not allowed to do something and let him/her know what the consequences will be if they break the rules- "if you climb you will fall" instead of "don't do that"; watch TV with your child so you can talk to your child about any misconceptions they may have- like a cartoon show somebody being blown up and then walking away
  - **School Age:** always give your child specific safety rules; encourage them to ask questions; have them point out unsafe things around them; use picture games to help them to identify unsafe things; and do role-playing to teach them what to do in unsafe situations



Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services  
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